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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor :Yutaka KOBAYASHI

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Commissioner for Patents

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of non-US documents (if any) listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Also attached is an European Search Report dated February 22, 2006, from the corresponding European Application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

However, any fee determined to be due with this statement may be charged to Deposit Account
50-1200.

The present Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an

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